GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1477
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
POVERTY IN ANDHRA PRADESH
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has forwarded any proposal to the UnionGovernment in regard to reservation on the estimation of poverty ratio under the Lakdawala formula;

(b) if so, the follow-up-action of the Union Government in this regard; and Â© the date on which proposal was submitted to the Union Government and the reasons for delay in clearance of the above proposal?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INVESTMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN TH MINISTRIES OF PLANNING, STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRIATIVE REORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has received representation from the StateGovernment of Andhra Pradesh in this regard. The State Government of Andhra Pradeshurged that in estimating poverty the impact of the price depressing effect of the food subsidy scheme, funded from the State Exchequer, be eliminated. The Government of Andhra Pradesh at a later stage also represented for reversion to the earlier methodology of poverty estimation, known as the Task Force method.

(b): The Planning Commission in a meeting held on 10th March, 1997, under thechairmanship of the then Prime Minister had taken the view that estimates of poverty at national and state level be made from the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakdawala Committee). Aftercarefully considering the representations, the Planning Commission has decided to continue with the Expert Group methodology. However, by eliminating the impact of the state-sponsored food subsidy scheme, the Planning Commission has raised the poverty ratio of Andhra Pradesh from 22.19% to 25.68% for exclusive use in the matter of allocation of foodgrain under Targeted Public Distribution Scheme (TPDS).

(c): The letters dated 23.2.1997, 20.3.1997, 4.7.1997, 4.9.1997, 19.4.1998 and 28.12.1998 from the Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh were received in the PlanningCommission. The replies conveying the decisions of the Planning Commission mentioned in the answer to Part (b) above, were sent to the Government of Andhra Pradesh on 25th June,1997, 17th September, 1997 and 12th May, 1998.